

The Children's Newspaper, Week Ending March 19, 1949

Children's Newspaper

Every Tuesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No 1565—March 19, 1949

HELENA GOLDIE OF NEW GEORGIA

A Valiant Little Lady of the Solomon Islands

MUCH that is good and inspiring has been accomplished in the Solomon Islands in the last fifty years by the faith of a few courageous missionaries, not least of whom was Mrs Helena Goldie. Her life of noble service came peacefully to its end not long ago, but she lives on in the hearts of men and women in New Zealand and Australia, and most of all in the Solomon Islands, where her husband still ministers.

Mrs Goldie was the first white woman to go among the savage head-hunters of the island of New Georgia. She went there in 1902 with her husband, the Revd J. F. Goldie, a young Methodist Minister, when he answered the call to go to the Solomon Islands.

Perhaps it is a little hard for us to realise that even at the beginning of this century the black-skinned people of the Solomon Islands were superstitious heathens, living as their ancestors had lived for probably hundreds of years. These islands were like a beautiful Garden of Eden with many serpents—witchcraft, slavery, diseases, and cannibalism.

The women of the Solomon Islands were the slaves of the men, the burden-bearers, subject to all kinds of restrictions. And Helena Goldie's heart went out to them. But what caused her the greatest distress was the misery of the native children. They never smiled or laughed, for they lived in constant dread of evil spirits and of being carried off into slavery by raiding tribesmen from other villages.

To help these women and children Helena Goldie gave all her health and strength. She taught the people of New Georgia to sing—a wonderful thing to do, for in heathen days they did not

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Dr Freda Flies to Her Patients

AUSTRALIA has had flying doctors for some time, but now there is a flying lady doctor. She is Dr Freda Gibson, who is stationed at Ceduna, a small outpost in the semi-arid Great Australian Bight country. Her "practice" covers 50,000 square miles, part of which is the desolate Nullarbor Plain.

Like the other Australian flying doctors, Dr Gibson attends cases at isolated homesteads, often hundreds of miles from the nearest settlement. She flies in a two-seater Dragon aircraft.

FIFTY-SHILLING TREASURE

A PICTURE, The Queen of Cyprus, which a man had secured in exchange for his typewriter, has just been sold for £3200.

It is a Rubens which the art experts had last heard of in 1861. The man who sold it saw it in a Reading antique shop and offered a carpet for it. The owner preferred a typewriter. The shopman said he had bought it at a Henley auction for £2 10s.

THE PILGRIM

Every year since he was two a seven-year-old Negro boy of New York has made a journey to Newark, in New Jersey, to place a wreath on the statue of Abraham Lincoln.



"Mushrooms" on the Sun

ATOMIC EXPLOSIONS BY THE THOUSAND

EVER since astronomers have been able to observe the Sun through large telescopes they have seen that the Sun's surface is covered with a curious mottled appearance, somewhat like the skin of an orange. It was thought that this was due to a violent effervescence of gases, but the question remained, apart from sunspots, of how these gases operated, and just what was the mechanism that kept them in circulation.

Now a scientist has stated that this mottled appearance of the Sun's disc is due to atomic-type "mushroom" caps. There must, he said, be a continuous series of atomic explosions in the interior, which send up the familiar huge mushrooms of hot gases, and it is these which give the Sun its curious mottled appearance. Thousands of these explosions are occurring every second, and new "mushrooms" take the place of the old.

Machine-Gun Bursts

Normally, when the Sun's disc is photographed a very short exposure is made. When a longer exposure is given, by fitting filters to the camera to cut down the light, no mottling appears. This is because the mushrooms are in motion, and they cancel themselves out in the photograph. In addition, new ones are appearing, and in a long exposure these new mushrooms blend with the old ones to a complete uniformity. This, of course, is entirely an appearance in the photograph, and is not a complete picture of reality.

The reality is terrible and awe-inspiring indeed. It seems that the Sun does not "burn" steadily, like a candle, but instead goes off in bursts like a machine-gun, each burst being an atomic explosion of inconceivable energy. Some of these explosions send geysers jetting 250,000 miles out from the Sun. The atomic bombs which our scientists have developed are mere fire-crackers in comparison with these huge explosions.

How lucky are we that a gulf of over 90 million miles separates us from this scene of indescribable confusion! Yet even this confusion, at a distance of 90 million miles, is toned down to a genial body of which we see all too little.

STUMPED

AUSTRALIAN cricketers have all been stumped—for stumps.

So short have they been of this cricketing necessity on the famous Sydney cricket ground that special measures had to be taken to ensure that the stumps were not "souvenired" at the end of big matches. There were no spares.

Even prosperous Australia has her shortages.

C. H.

Guests From the Antarctic

Two species of bird very seldom seen at the London Zoo are now on their way there from the Antarctic, writes the CN Zoo Correspondent. They are a sheathbill, and five young Adélie penguins.

"The birds are a gift from the Governor of the Falkland Isles," a Zoo official told me. "They are travelling northwards in H M S Sparrow, and are being looked after by the medical

officer, who is hand-feeding the penguins on fish and the sheathbill on egg and meat.

"The penguins in particular are very delicate birds, and because of this we are trying to arrange an air passage for them from Monte Video."

The sheathbill, of which the Zoo has not had a specimen since before the war, is a curious bird; it is not unlike a ptarmigan, the chief difference, apart from its bill, being that it has no feathers on its legs. Its remarkable beak has a sheath on the upper mandible which prevents the liquid contents of eggs (the sheathbill feeds mainly on penguin eggs) from getting into the bird's nostrils.

As for Adélie penguins, it is about 25 years since the species was last seen at Regent's Park. They are comical-looking birds, for each eye is encircled by a white ring that stands out in bold relief against the black plumage of the rest of the head, making the bird appear as though it were wearing an enormous pair of spectacles.

Especially amusing are the nesting habits of this species. The male Adélie is a jealous lover, and when two rivals are fighting the combatants stand with their breasts touching. They then belabour each other with hard smacks delivered with their flippers.

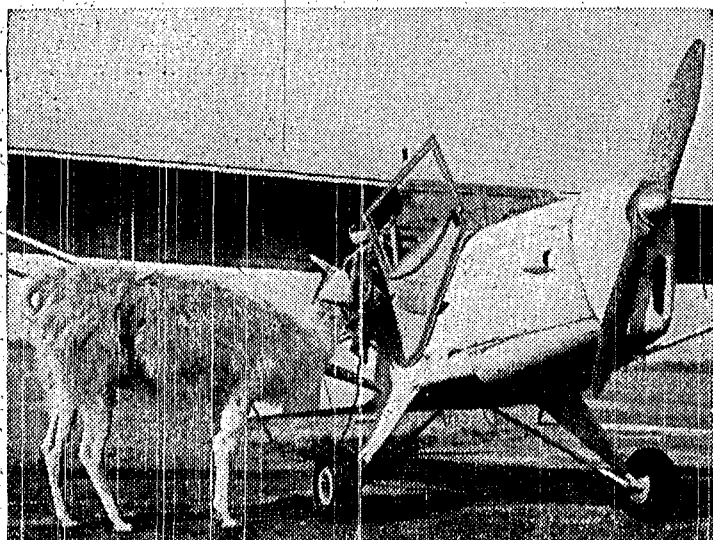
NEW HELP FOR THE VET

A FARMER in Kansas, U.S.A., had a cow that was unaccountably ill; it was off its food, and lay around all day, though apparently it had none of the recognised cow ailments.

Then along came the "vet" with a new piece of apparatus, an "explorer" or "foreign" body detector, developed by the U.S. Army Medical Department. On passing this over the body of the cow he discovered a metal object in the stomach, subsequently found to be a piece of wire.

The new apparatus, which works on an electronic principle, is doing splendid work on farms. It can locate a bullet which may have been accidentally discharged at an animal, taking over the functions of X-rays, which cannot conveniently be used on farm animals.

WELCOME HOME



In the hangars of Lasham airfield, near Alton, Hampshire, a circus has established its winter quarters. When the owner returns from a business flight the llama is one of the first to greet him.

America Reviews Her Aid For Europe

THE European Recovery Plan, or Marshall Aid, is nearly a year old and as last year's supply of dollars is being exhausted new funds must be found to continue its good work. The United States Congress have, therefore, to decide the total sum to be provided and how it is to be distributed among the countries of Europe.

Because Marshall Aid is provided by the American taxpayer the U.S. Congress, the "watch-dog" of the taxpayers' money, is looking into the whole matter again. The "hearings," as they are called, take place in a joint committee set up by the Senate and the House of Representatives, the two Chambers of America's Parliament.

Before Congress can provide money for Marshall Aid it must be fully informed of how the money allocated to it last year was spent and how it is proposed to spend further sums. The process is far more complicated in America than it would be in our own country. For under the American Constitution the legislative, or parliamentary, power, is completely separate from the executive (government) and judicial powers.

Strange as it may seem to us, a member of the American Government cannot be a member of Congress. Rarely does a President (who is both the Head of State and Prime Minister) address the Congress in person. More often than not he sends a written message in which he explains his policy or demands the passing of an Act of Congress.

Special Committee

To permit some direct contact between the Government and the Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives, either separately or jointly, appoint a Committee (like a British Parliamentary Committee) to investigate any special matter. It is in these Committees that members of the Government and of Congress meet face to face. A Congressional Committee may not only ask questions but may also compel people to appear before it to "testify."

It is one of these Committees—appointed by both Chambers—that has been looking into the needs of European countries, in-

cluding Britain, and recommending the size of funds needed for their recovery. In recent weeks dozens of American officials, including the chief of the Marshall Aid scheme, Mr. Paul Hoffman, have flown to Washington to give testimony as to their opinions on European needs. They have told the Committee of the targets achieved and the needs of European countries in the coming year.

Funds Will be Granted

Although much discussion and cross-examination, some of it critical of Europe, has taken place there can be little doubt that funds needed for ERP in the year 1949-50 will eventually be granted by Congress.

The reason for the inquiry and explanation is that relatively few Americans are convinced that further help to Europe is needed. Fewer still can simply and satisfactorily explain why dollars are needed by Europe.

The wittiest explanation so far, perhaps, was given by Mr. Krag, Minister of Trade of Denmark. In a recent newspaper article Mr. Krag said that dollars are essential for Denmark because she is buying so much fodder in America for her cattle. That, he went on, was also the case before the war. But then Denmark could change the pounds which she got for her butter and eggs from Britain into dollars as freely as possible. Today, however, Denmark cannot.

So we are witnessing the fact, Mr. Krag says, that, figuratively speaking, dollars are being converted into pounds sterling inside the Danish cows, whereas the process of converting pounds into dollars inside the Bank of England has stopped. Until that is possible once again—and that will mean that Europe has recovered—Danish cows need American fodder and Danish farmers need American dollars.

Round the World in Four Days

LUCKY LADY II, a United States Air Force B-50 bomber, has made the first non-stop flight round the world. She was refuelled in the air four times during the flight.

Lucky Lady II, with a crew of 14 under Captain James Gallagher, began her trip at Fort Worth, Texas, and flew eastward via the Azores, Dharan in Saudi Arabia, India, the Philippines, and Hawaii in the Pacific, arriving back at Fort Worth 94 hours (two hours under four days) after leaving there. She had flown 23,452 miles, which is about 1500 miles less than the distance round the Earth at the Equator. Her average speed was 249.39 m.p.h.

Tanker aircraft went up to refuel her from the Azores, Dharan, the Philippines, and Hawaii, using British re-fuelling equipment produced by Flight Re-fuelling, Limited.

YOUTH SORTS THINGS OUT

MANY youth organisations of London will be represented at a Conference at the County Hall on March 17. Delegates of the Boys' Brigade, Girl Guides, the Y.H.A., the A.T.C., Borough Youth Committees, and so on will give their opinions on four subjects affecting the lives of young people.

The first of these is, the importance today of moral teaching from a Christian point of view.

The next subject is, Preparation of Youth for National Service—how young men entering the Armed Forces can be helped to cultivate those qualities of self-control, self-reliance, and initiative which they will urgently need in their new Service life.

The third subject is, Over-18s and Their Needs. The fourth is that of the over-lapping of competitions. This badly needs sorting out. So many organisations run football, netball, and other sports leagues and competitions that there is a risk of their clashing. It is essential that they should be organised to avoid confusion.

Better to Eat Than Sharks

CERTAIN West African natives, according to a Herring Industry Board spokesman, are now eating British herrings in preference to sharks.

This is not the first time the African has sampled some of our North Sea harvest, for in the days of slavery huge quantities of pickled herrings were sent to the West Indies as a cheap, nutritious food for the African slaves.

HELENA GOLDIE

Continued from page 1

sing at all. In a canoe paddled by native girls she would visit village after village, teaching the women the arts of needle and thread. She would give these poor village women instruction in the care of their children, and she would pray with them.

At all times there were native girls, living in the home of Mr and Mrs Goldie, learning to do housework and care for babies; and later, when many of these girls married native teachers and went to live in distant villages, they spread the knowledge they had gained.

Nothing ever daunted Helena Goldie. In her early years among the fierce heathen tribes of New Georgia she often risked her life to defy cruel customs, such as the practice of burying babies with their dead mothers. No case of medical aid was too dreadful for her to face.

When compelled by ill-health to leave the islands, she continued to help the people through the translations of hymns and parts of the Bible that she made at her home in Melbourne.

In recent years many audiences in New Zealand and Australia came to know Helena Goldie well. She was a small and frail but ardent lady whose eyes, when she spoke of the Solomon Islands, fairly glowed with enthusiasm.

Nearly 50 years of her life she devoted to the cause of these people of New Georgia and nearby islands. And now she has passed on. But her work lives on, and a fitting memorial to it all is the Helena Goldie Hospital which was established in New Georgia some years ago.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

MERCY WORK

The British Red Cross Society has allocated £45,000 for the maintenance of a commission in Transjordan to do relief work among Arab refugees. A hospital has been opened at Es Salt.

On Vancouver Island the remains of a mastodon, estimated to be 200,000 years old, have been found in a gravel pit. This was the first discovery of prehistoric relics made on the island.

The value of bicycles and motor-cycles exported from Britain during January, over £2,000,000, was a record. Bicycles exported numbered 186,158, and motor-cycles 7561.

The Sunbeam, a little Sunday School paper published in Birmingham, has celebrated its 1000th number and its 84th year.

THEY ALL WON

At a rabbit show at Redbourn, Herts, the judge awarded all the entrants in the children's section a prize because the level of their exhibits was so high.

Mr Frank Goodey, organist at Limsfield Parish Church, Surrey, said to be the only blind man to master Brahms's Requiem, memorised the 100-page score from a specially-prepared copy in Braille.



A four-legged patient at the Canine Defence League clinic at Camberwell, London, enjoys sun-ray treatment under the clinic's new lamps.

Two British players recently won the United States women's racquets doubles championship. They are Miss Janet Morgan and Mrs Alice Teague. Miss Morgan has also won the United States singles championship.

The Scout Gilt Cross has been awarded to Sea Scout Derek Bramley, of the 1st S-W Herts Group, for his gallant rescue of a little girl from drowning in the Grand Union Canal at Watford.

Not Recommended

In an orange-eating contest held in Florida, thirteen-year-old Harold Drawdy ate fifteen and a half big oranges in ten minutes.

A 300-year-old clay pipe, still smelling of tobacco, has been dug up near Liverpool Street Station, London.

To mark the granting of a charter to the University of Natal, celebrations are being held at Pietermaritzburg on March 15 and at Durban on March 19.

Guiding is making progress in the British Zone of Germany, where nearly a hundred groups are now working.

LOW WATER

Owing to lack of water in dams working hydro-electric plants the use of electricity in Switzerland has been severely cut. The level of the Rhine has been the lowest since the winter of 1857-58.

When a five-year-old girl fell into a canal at Small Heath, Birmingham, William Mills, aged 14, dived in and saved her.

For the first time the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race is to be televised from beginning to end on March 26. A launch following the crews will carry new mobile television equipment and there will be cameras at intervals on the banks.

Miss P. Cook of Putney is to make a four-month tour of the U.S. and Canada, singing and lecturing on English songs and carols dating back to the 12th century.

Fourteen-Footer Fish

After a three-hour struggle two Chinese fishermen caught a rare 14-foot sawfish weighing 971 lbs near Penang.

The film of *Treasure Island* which Walt Disney is to produce in Britain this summer will be his first film made entirely by human actors without the use of drawings. He hopes, however, to produce this year a full-length cartoon film based on *Cinderella*.

The report of the Commission for Christian Reconstruction in Europe showed that of the year's expenditure of over £100,000, more than half was provided by the Church of England.

The first time for at least 100 years that the Queen's personal standard had been flown by a merchant ship in the Port of London was when the Queen recently inspected the new 12,000-ton motor-ship, Port Brisbane, which is to make her maiden voyage to Adelaide on March 19.

THROWING HIS WEIGHT ABOUT

A 35-lb weight has been thrown 60 feet 7½ inches by Jim Scholtz of the U.S. Army, a world record.

A certificate has been awarded by the Carnegie Hero Trust Fund to Miss Ruby Jones, a children's nurse, who protected a little boy aged two from a bolting horse and was kicked on the head.

At New Mexico, U.S.A., a two-stage rocket has reached a record height of over 250 miles. The two rockets, one in the nose of the other, weighed 15 tons. The first one was a German V-2 which carried an American-designed rocket to a certain height and there released it to travel upward.

The L.C.C. have proposed that children who live in homes without a bathroom should have baths at school.

During February the British steel industry produced steel at the highest rate ever reported. Its average weekly production represented an annual rate of 16,176,000 tons. Last year the total output was 14,877,000 tons.

Shelter Into Shrine

At Dusseldorf a huge air-raid shelter is being converted into a church. Apertures have been blasted in the walls to provide for stained-glass windows.

The Office of Works has started restoration work on Conisborough Castle, near Doncaster. The castle, which appears in Scott's *Ivanhoe*, was built in the 13th century.



THOSE EVENING BELLS

TEN pupils of Simon Langton Boys' School, Canterbury, have formed a Bell-ringing Society at their school. Every evening they practise their hobby with handbells.

They all ring church bells in various East Kent villages, and the leader of the team, 15-year-old Peter Newing, has rung in no fewer than forty-six different churches, including Canterbury Cathedral itself.

Next Best Thing

WE cannot all travel round to art galleries to see paintings by the world's great masters, but the next best thing is to study a collection of reproductions of them. One that is to be sent round Britain this year was on view in London last week. It is a remarkable collection of more than 50 reproductions of Old Master paintings of the various national schools—Italian, Flemish, French, and so on—which has been presented to the National Adult School Union by Miss Edith Neville, OBE.

It will be divided into 14 representative sections, and it is hoped that Adult Schools will allow their sets, which they are to keep for three months, to be used also by neighbouring day schools, community centres, and similar institutions.

Election in San Marino

SAN MARINO, the tiny republic on the edge of the Apennines in Italy, has just held its general election for the Grand Council. This little State claims to be the oldest in Europe, having been founded by Saint Marinus, who came across the Adriatic from Dalmatia in A.D. 301.

Only the men vote, so there are only about 4000 voters, and the Grand Council of San Marino is elected every four years. The Council itself elects every six months two captains, who govern the Republic.

Amid the tumult of our times it is good to think of little San Marino still maintaining its independence after 1600 years.

ALAS! POOR FATHER

A New York professor had an argument with his class over the smartness of different generations. As a test he handed the class examination papers of 1919. Out of 114 students tested in 1949 80 per cent passed. In 1919 only 19 per cent passed the same exam!

Norwegian Picnic

These boys and girls in Norway have their lunches in the little rucksacks, but first they are warming up with a game of Ring-o'-Roses.

Standard Fares in the Air

FOR the first time in history a round-the-world standard fare tariff is offered by 17 companies operating airways. From March 28 it will be possible to fly round the world, choosing one of more than a thousand alternative routes which reach 165 cities in 40 countries in the five continents.

By way of the North Pacific and Mid-Pacific routes the fare will be £421 17s. The longer route by way of Australia costs £491 5s. These fares include hotel charges at night stops to a maximum of 48 hours. Furthermore, it is announced that no extra fare is payable if the traveller desires to break his journey, at his own expense, on condition that the whole journey is completed within one year.

MOZART RELIC

A BRONZE death mask of the composer Mozart has just been discovered in Vienna and pronounced genuine. This is doubtless the mask referred to in an extant letter of his sister-in-law, Sophie Heibl, who was in the room when the composer died. In the letter she says: "Then Mueller came from the art institute and took a mask in plaster of his pale dead face." Mueller was the owner of a notable art institute and kept a bronze cast of the mask among his treasures, but it disappeared at an auction.

The finder was a sculptor, Willy Kauer, who gave 100 schillings for the mask from an art collector named Jellinek. Jellinek had bought it for five schillings from a junk dealer, who did not know where he got it.

Pluto Into Plume

TO aid the Berlin air-lift, sections of Pluto—pipe line under the ocean—that supplied the Normandy invasion forces with petrol, have now been laid over the one and a half miles from the Berlin airport at Gatow to the shore of Lake Havel. The operation is called Plume—pipe line under mother earth.

Petrol discharged from aircraft into tanks at Gatow can be pumped at the rate of 100 gallons a minute into tanks at Lake Havel, whence it is taken by canal to the British sector of Berlin.

THE WAY TO THE UNIVERSITY

THE Universities of London and Durham, and the Joint Matriculation Board of the Universities of Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Sheffield, and Birmingham, have announced that they will accept for a period of five years from 1951, a General Certificate of Education, as satisfying the minimum University entrance requirements.

Candidates must pass in English and one other language; and in either mathematics or an approved science; and in at least two other subjects.

Old Canal Takes a New Lease of Life

THE Basingstoke Canal, 32 miles long; of which a picture appeared in a recent CN, has been sold for £6000 to a committee of the Inland Waterways Association, a voluntary body which exists to protect our rivers and canals.

The committee intend to restore this old waterway so that it can be used for pleasure boating, and also again for barges carrying goods. For this purpose they will form a private company which will pay a fixed dividend, and use excess profits in keeping up the canal for pleasure and commercial use.

The towpath will be restored, an official of the Association told the CN, but no attempt made to "parkify" the surroundings, which in their natural state are of gentle beauty.

Local authorities will probably co-operate with the Company in improving the amenities along the canal banks, which in many places, especially in towns, are in a deplorable condition.

RHUBARB SPECIAL

YORKSHIRE is famed for many industries, but one is comparatively little known—rhubarb.

The Leeds and District Market Gardeners have just held their annual show, the only one of its kind in the world; 150 growers within a 20-mile radius of Leeds competed and the cups awarded were valued at £900.

Of the 8500 acres producing rhubarb in this country, 6000 are in Yorkshire. British Railways run a special train, the Rhubarb Special, to London, where it is met by special gangs, who convey the rhubarb to Covent Garden and other markets.

City Made of Cardboard

VISITORS to Glasgow's Kelvin Hall feel much as Gulliver must have felt in Lilliput. They see hundreds of buildings, row upon row of streets, and dozens of parks. They see buses and cars on the streets, overhead railways, and ships afloat in docks—all in miniature.

This Lilliputian "city" is a model made mainly of wood and cardboard, and is one of the many wonderful exhibits at the "Glasgow Today and Tomorrow" exhibition, open until April 9.

Most of the city's municipal departments have stands at this exhibition showing how their services work—how the citizens get their water all the way from Loch Katrine, for instance. Glasgow manufacturers, too, are well represented.

It is to the model of the New Glasgow, however, that most visitors' eyes turn when they enter Kelvin Hall; the centre of the city as the Corporation are planning it to look in 50 years

time. This model took five months to make. Hundreds of parts of wood and cardboard were used, and the whole thing was erected at the exhibition like a jig-saw puzzle. Each part was made to an exact scale of an eighth of an inch to one foot.

Glasgow is not a flat city, however, and the hills and valleys had to be shown with the buildings rising and falling on them accordingly. This was a problem, but it was solved by giving each model building four legs—like a table. The buildings which were to stand high up on the hills had long legs; those low in the valleys had short legs. Then, when the models were put down on the floor of the Kelvin Hall, gravel and sand was spread to hide the legs—to come up to the foot of the buildings and no farther.

The whole thing is a complete miniature city. The people of Glasgow look at it and know that, although it is just a model now it may be the real thing soon.

Australia's Oldest House

THE Government of New South Wales are being asked to preserve for all time the oldest house in the Commonwealth—Elizabeth Farm House, Harris Park, Parramatta, near Sydney. This is the unpretentious house built in 1793 by John MacArthur, founder of the Australian wool industry, and the man who did more than any other to make Australia the greatest wool-producing country of the world.

MacArthur was an Army officer of the New South Wales Corps. He introduced the Merino sheep, and it brought great wealth to him as well as his country; in 1805 he owned a third of all the sheep in Australia.

NORFOLK HOTPOT

THE customs of eating Lancashire hot-pot at dinner and of toasting the King as Duke of Lancaster have both been introduced into Norfolk by natives of Lancashire living in that county who have formed a Lancastrian Society. In its first month the society enrolled more than a hundred members, and anticipates many more during the year.

A VALUABLE RECORDING

NEXT June Professor A. P. Elkin, an anthropologist, of Sydney University, with an expert on native dialects and a recording unit, will visit Arnhem Land to record Aboriginal dialects, chants, and ancient rituals. The Northern Territory tribes will perform their native dances, and sing their old songs.

Thus a sound record will be preserved of an ancient race whose numbers are becoming less and less.

Dancing on the Sands

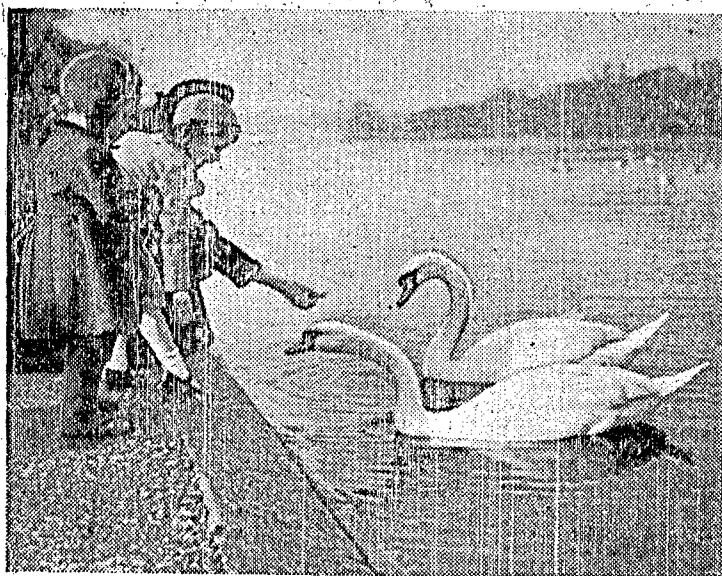
WHEN the Ballet Rambert company visited Australia recently a colour film of one of their ballets was made on the sands near Brisbane for use in Australian schools. The seaside was an appropriate setting for this ballet which is a gay story of fisherfolk called Simple Symphony, by one of the ballet's dancers, Walter Gore.

In its 18-month-tour of Australia and New Zealand the Ballet Rambert performed 26 ballets, 19 of which were seen for the first time in Australia.



Pictorial Pottery

In a Chelsea studio a group of women artists are brightening plain white chinaware and glass by painting designs on each piece.



Feeding Time

Two little visitors to the Serpentine in Hyde Park, London, share some of their lunch with the swans.

THE C.N. ASTRONOMER WRITES ABOUT . . .

Canis Minor, the Little Dog of the Heavens

THE constellation of Canis Minor, the Little Dog of the Heavens (or, as some say, Lesser Dog, to be more exact), may now be readily identified between eight and nine o'clock and almost due south.

Though a small constellation, it may be easily found with the aid of our star-map directly south of the Twins, Castor and Pollux. The Little Dog's two chief stars, Procyon and Gomeisa, appear just about as far apart as Castor and Pollux.



Gomeisa, also known as Beta Canis Minoris, is much more distant and actually a much larger and more brilliant sun than Procyon, being 163 light-years' journey distant and radiating nearly 100 times more light and heat than our Sun.

Procyon (pronounced Pro-sion) is a sun of very great interest, and somewhat similar to our Sun, though slightly less advanced in stellar evolution. Procyon is about twice the width of our Sun, possessing a diameter of about 1,700,000 miles as compared with our Sun's 864,000 miles. The surface of Procyon is somewhat hotter, averaging between 6500 and 7000 degrees centigrade as compared with our Sun's 5500 to 6000 degrees. Consequently, Procyon on the whole radiates about 5½ times more light and heat than our Sun, but as Procyon is at a distance about 665,000 times farther than our Sun, he appears only as a bright star.

Nevertheless, Procyon is one of our Sun's nearest neighbours, only Alpha Centauri and Sirius, among the bright stars comparable with our Sun, being nearer than Procyon. The time light takes to travel from these stars is 10 years and 5 months from Procyon; 8 years and 7 months from Sirius; and 4 years and 3½ months from the two suns composing Alpha Centauri. These, with a few very much smaller bodies, compose this little "family group" to which our Sun belongs.

The solar system of Procyon is most remarkable because of the great density and weight of the heavy fiery planet that revolves round Procyon once in about 39 years. It is comparatively small—probably no larger than Jupiter—because, although it still has a flaming surface, it radiates something like 33,000 times less light than does our Sun.

Notwithstanding its relative immensity, Procyon possesses only about three times the mass or weight of material of its small planet, so an average cubic inch of this planet, known as Procyon B, would therefore weigh a matter of tons.

In our Solar System the Earth is, for its size, the most massive and heavy of all the major planets, being heavier even than the Sun, volume for volume. Comparing every average cubic foot of the Earth with every average cubic foot of the Sun, the Earth is about four times heavier.

In the case of Procyon, so massive is the planet that revolves round it that, though it is at the great average distance of about 1209 million miles, it pulls the great sun of Procyon out of its course, making it travel round in a lesser ellipse inside the much greater ellipse of the planet Procyon B.

All this indicates that the materials and their atoms composing this planet must be in a very different condition and much more closely packed than on our world. Were we on that planet it would probably be impossible to move with our present muscular power. G. F. M.

HIS MUSKET

A musket with a brass plate stating that it was presented by King George IV to Chief Waikato of New Zealand in 1820 has been placed in a museum at Waitangi. Chief Waikato and Chief Hongi were sent to England by the missionaries to assist in the compiling of a Maori dictionary and grammar book. Waikato was a peaceful man and used his musket only for shooting pigeons in the bush.

THE HUT MAN TELLS US WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN . . .

The Countryside in March

MOST of us will know Mrs Browning's little rhyme about the months, in which she tells us that:

*March brings breezes loud and shrill,
Stirs the dancing daffodil.*

There are many people who do not like windy weather, but if we are really to know and love the countryside we must also learn to know and love the wind.

March is very often a breezy month, and during its boisterous days we shall find many interesting things to watch which cannot be seen when the weather is calm. One of the most exciting is the flight of birds on windy days, especially the rooks.

WATCH a flock of these active birds feeding in a grass field during a gale. Every now and then one of them rises from the ground and is immediately caught by the wind and blown backwards, helter-skelter, as though out of control; but when it wants to land again the strong dark wings are held rigid, the bird balances head-on to the gale, hangs for a moment almost motionless, and then floats gently to earth again.

We shall see the same wonderful air mastery as the flock passes from the feeding field to the rookery where, before the month is out, many of the nests will contain eggs. As we watch the dark forms passing overhead we shall see from time to time a bird apparently blown out of its path, but this is only the rook's way of enjoying the wind, of playing with it. Once the joyous aerial tumble has taken place the acrobat gives a couple of powerful wing beats and is again flying on a steady course. When the rook is on earnest business, and in a hurry, it can fly straight into the teeth of the fiercest gale.

EVEN before the hawthorn buds have opened into leaf on the laneside hedge we may find the beautiful grassy, mud-lined cup of the song-thrush's nest, with its black-speckled, sky-blue eggs—for this well-known bird is one of the first to begin nursery duties.

When they are not engaged at the nest we shall often see the parent birds hopping on the lawn,



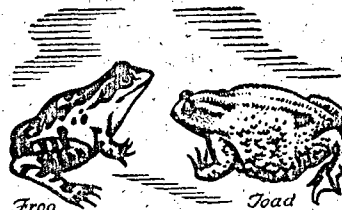
every now and then turning their heads sideways, then darting forward and tugging a worm from the turf. This movement of the head looks just as though the birds were listening intently, and we may even have been told that they were locating the worms by means of their ears; but this is not so—it would take a keener ear even than a thrush's to hear a worm pushing its way through the soil!

Why, then, do the birds turn their heads in this way? It is because the thrush's eyes, like those of most birds, are placed on either side of the head, which prevents them from seeing

directly in front. In order to examine the grass immediately ahead, therefore, the thrush must turn its head on one side. It is with its eyes, not its ears, that the hunting thrush discovers the unwary worm on our lawns.

LAST month we mentioned that one or two early frogs or toads might be found heading for the pond. Now they are out in vast numbers. All round the selected spawning water we find them struggling through long grass and climbing laboriously over rough ground. In many cases we shall find a large, portly toad burdened under the weight of a smaller toad which clings so tightly that it is almost impossible to separate them. This is not, as so many people think, the younger toads killing off the older ones, but the females carrying their little husbands pick-a-back to the pond!

In the pond itself we shall find much to interest us. As we approach we see the water dimpled with rippling rings as the toads swim about with only their noses breaking the surface, but at our appearance the swimmers sink to the bottom, where we can watch them crawling among the water-weeds. From all round the shore we hear the



throaty music of toad voices raised in the wedding chorus, and very curious music it sounds when the song is sung under water!

TOADS return year after year to the same pond, but frogs seem content to use the first little piece of water they find on emerging from winter bedrooms. We may, however, discover both toads and frogs sharing the same pond, and then we can compare the difference between their methods of egg-laying.

What is the difference between frog and toad eggs? There is not much difference between the eggs themselves; both are little dark, dot-like things, enclosed in a protective jelly-like covering, but we can easily tell which is which by the way the eggs are arranged in this curious clear blanket. The eggs of the frog are scattered throughout the "jelly," which is laid in shapeless masses at the bottom of the pond; but the jelly quickly swells with the water, and then it rises and floats to the surface. Toad eggs are laid in double rows in long ropes of jelly, and as the mother twines these round the stems of the water-weeds they remain safely anchored at the bottom of the pond.

WHEN the eggs hatch, and the tadpoles reach the stage of swimming about with wriggling tails, it is easy to say which are frogs, for toad tadpoles are almost black whereas the baby frogs are a pleasant nut-brown colour. If we decide to keep tadpoles in a jar of water and watch them grow we may perhaps think that the hind legs begin to grow before the front legs.

They certainly seem to do so, but all four legs really appear at the same time. To begin with, however, the shorter front legs are hidden under the little gill-tufts which we notice sticking out from each side of the tadpole's neck—if such a bullet-like little creature can be said to have a neck at all!

ON a still and quiet afternoon in wayside or woodland we may hear a gentle scratching sound, as of a very fine needle point on wood, and if we follow it up we shall find a large queen wasp scraping wood-fibre from an old paling or gate post. From this she

will manufacture the wood-pulp with which to build the grey paper cells and walls of her new city's foundation. We should never kill queen wasps, as so many thoughtless people advise, for throughout the summer her children, the worker wasps, kill thousands of harmful and objectionable flies with which to feed the young grubs.

Another insect we shall find home-building is the large, hairy humble-bee, who seeks a suitable little tunnel in some sunny bank. Here and there she goes, humming loudly all the while, her wings raising a little cloud of dust as she conducts her search close to the ground.

So March passes, with blustery winds but occasional days of mild warmth which tells us that full springtide is only just round the corner. And if we want more definite proof that winter has nearly gone, and that these windy days are only a sign of March's playfulness, well, let us watch for the first swallow.

Pictures "Painted" With Cotton

INSTEAD of using paint like most artists, Mrs Marguerite Sease, of Greenville, South Carolina, U.S.A., "paints" with the fluffy fibres of raw cotton.

After colouring the cotton with iodine, ink, shoe polish, and even dust from the window-sill, she creates realistic pictures which have won high praise. To make cotton figures, Mrs Sease skillfully presses dabs of cotton on backgrounds of velvet, corduroy, or burlap.

Her cotton pictures include attractive southern plantation scenes, ships at sea, winter scenes in the country, the birds and flowers of South Carolina, and portraits of actual people.

The pictures range in size from six feet high to one inch square, and they are sold to help various charitable organisations.

Mrs Sease says, the idea of cotton painting as a hobby came to her one day when she absent-mindedly shaped her initials in cotton on her coat sleeve.

She has recently been introducing bedridden children in the Shrine Hospital for Crippled Children, Greenville, to this new form of art. Several of the little students have already passed the elementary stage.

The Children's Newspaper, March 19, 1949

THE LONDON CLIPPIE

PERHAPS, when you were very small, you wanted to be a bus conductor? Perhaps, when you were a little older, you wondered what it was really like to be a bus conductor?

So did I. And that is why I went along to a big bus garage the other day to have a talk with a London "Clippie"—one of those bus conductresses who carried on during the war when the men were away, through air-raids and Flying Bombs and Rockets; and who are still carrying on—some of them.

I was introduced to my Clippie, Mrs Butler, about half an hour before she was due to go out on the Late Shift, at 2.45 in the afternoon. I saw at once that she has one very useful advantage in her job—she is short and slim. And that makes all the difference when you have to collect fares on a crowded lower deck among standing passengers, and also have to keep nipping up and down the stairs to and from the top deck.

Yes, Mrs Butler is a nippy Clippie. I have twice ridden with her on her bus and watched her at work, so I know.

MRS BUTLER'S bus runs right across London from Highgate—the village where Dick Whittington rested and heard Bow Bells calling—to Teddington on the Thames. The journey takes about 90 minutes and passes Olympia and Kew Gardens, which both attract plenty of passengers in their seasons. Her day's work lasts 7 hours 20 minutes, in which time she does two complete return trips, and takes something between £15 and £20.

When she is doing the Early Shift her first bus starts at 4.27 a.m., and she gets home at about 11 o'clock. Then there is the Middle Shift, from 9.10 a.m., which gets her home soon after

six. Each Shift lasts a week, and a bus week starts on Wednesday and ends on the following Tuesday. Every seventh week conductors, in turn, get both the Tuesday and Wednesday off. Otherwise, it's a rest day every eighth day.

I ASKED Mrs Butler how she managed her household when working these times. She has seven children, too.

"Well," she said, "Kenneth and Colin are both away in the Merchant Service—one of them



Ready for the day's work

brought me a lovely present from New York the other day—and Pam, who is sixteen and a half, is working in an office. It's Pat, just over fifteen, who does the shopping when I'm away. And I leave Teresa, who's two, in a Day Nursery. The other two are at school."

Mrs Butler puts on her uniform at home—a long coat, trousers—with a very smart crease in them—and cross-belts for the leather cash bag and the ticket punch. When coming on duty she goes to the Conductors' Room. This has counters running along two walls with windows, rather like those in a booking office, behind them.

GOING to one of the windows she is handed her ticket box and her little wooden ticket rack. She puts these down somewhere and starts sorting out her tickets, putting a little pile of each sort into one of the clips on her rack. She will be given about 3150 tickets for two days' work, and they are fastened in bundles by a wire staple. She will have about 1000 three-halfpenny tickets—the lowest fare for grown-ups in London—and 800 at twopence-halfpenny, 400 at fourpence, and so on up to the eightpenny tickets, the top fare on this route, of which she carries about 150. There will also be about 200 children's penny tickets.

Besides the tickets in her box there will be a long sheet of paper, ruled in various ways. It is called the Way Bill. On one side she has to pencil down the numbers of the various tickets sold. You can often see conductors making up their Way Bills while the bus is going along full speed. How they write figures neatly in those little squares with their platform bumping about I don't know, but they say it's just practice.

THE other side of that Way Bill is ruled out as a Cash Total Sheet. The total number of tickets sold has to be entered with the total money taken. And that figure of tickets sold has got to agree with the number recorded by the ticket punch, or someone will want to know the reason why.

The ticket punch, you see, has an automatic device inside but is sealed up so that the conductor cannot interfere with it. The seal must be unbroken when the punch is handed in. And every time a ticket is punched a little disc of paper is bitten out of the ticket. If any serious difference is shown between what the Way Bill says and what the punch says, the little machine is sent to be opened and all the tiny paper discs, whose colours show what value they are—green four-pennies, brown sixpennies or what-not—are sorted out and counted.

MRS BUTLER likes her job. She has a nice, sympathetic way with old people getting on and off these quickly-moving buses.

"If you have a good driver, like I have," she told me, "you can look after old folk. I never let him start before my passengers are properly off and on. But it's the children who are my headache. I don't mind them larking about—that's natural—but I don't like it when they start pushing each other down the stairs when we're going along, or shoving each other about on the platform."

"And I do wish," she went on, "that people would learn the proper way to get off a bus—facing towards the front. You'd be surprised how many people don't know that. Of course, some of our drivers go to the schools now and give the kids talks on Road Safety."

A bus conductor's job must be a pretty trying one, what with Rush Hours and passengers who pull out half a dozen old tickets from their pocket when the inspector comes round and asks "Which is it?" And some have bad bus manners and try to stay on when the conductor

Continued on page 10

OTHER PEOPLE'S JOBS—The third in our series of articles specially written for C N by Alan Ivimey



In the Conductor's Room—Receiving the box of tickets



"Hold tight, please!"



"Passengers off first, please!"



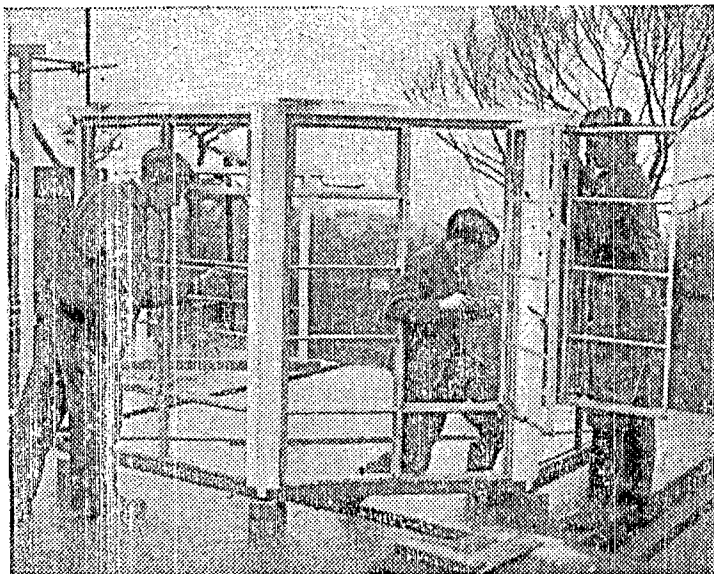
"Pass inside the bus, please!"

THE SLAVE PIT'S OF INYANGA

An ancient roofed "slave pit," the first of its kind with a roof still on it to be discovered in Southern Rhodesia, came to light recently at Inyanga, a place where other relics of vanished African races have been found.

The slave pit was walled with stone and approached by a tunnel, but it is a matter of conjecture whether slaves or cattle were kept in it. The natives now living near the Inyanga ruins have a faint tradition that cattle were kept in these places. They say that the unknown people who made these pits had a hole in the roof of the tunnel through which they put a pole reaching to the tunnel floor. The cattle-owner would sleep with his head close to the pole so that if it were moved by a thief he would be awakened.

However, about 24 years ago an urn, believed then to be 10,000 years old, was found at Inyanga, and in this urn were five thick copper bangles, thought to have been used as fetters for slaves.



Builders of the Future

With the minimum of supervision, 18 apprentices whose average age is 16 are building six houses at Muswell Hill, London. A part of each week is spent in the classroom. Here we see three of the lads preparing a window.

The Editor's Table

ON TO RECOVERY

By mid-April we shall all be able to buy sweets and chocolate without a ration book. This is a heartening sign of a return to a more normal existence. With woollen clothing and footwear also "off the ration," we have good evidence of Britain's ability to march forward on the road to recovery.

This country has earned world admiration by her self-discipline since 1945 when, following all the trials and tribulations of long years of war, the nation began to face further long years of austerity and short supply. That discipline has been accepted with intelligent understanding although, naturally, there has been much grumbling.

What most Britons have realised is that without this national self-discipline there could be no likelihood of regaining our place as a great nation; nor could we give a lead to Europe in its even more formidable task of recovery. Our recovery is bound up with the recovery of other nations, and our future prosperity is bound up with theirs, too.

In all this steady march forward to recovery we have to thank the United States of America for magnanimous and far-seeing aid. Reports of Britain's and Europe's recovery would not be anywhere near so good as they are had that aid been lacking. The New World has indeed, in Canning's historic phrase, stepped in "to redress the balance of the Old," with a generosity unprecedented in history.

But there is a long way to go yet before we can stand on our feet alone. American aid is still vital if by 1953, as it is hoped, this land is once more able to pay its way. When that day comes we, with America and the rest of Europe, will be able to look back with satisfaction. And we shall have learned many valuable lessons which will help the creation of a world family of nations, each of them independent and yet inter-dependent on one another.

A Good Name

Get and preserve a good name, if it were but for the public service: for one of a deserved Reputation hath oftentimes an opportunity to do that good, which another cannot that wants it. And he may practise it with more security and success.

Thomas Fuller

REMEMBERED

This fond attachment to the well-known place Whence first we started into life's long race, Maintains its hold with such un-failing sway, We feel it e'en in age, and at our latest day. William Cowper

Giving Glamour to Goodness

YOUNG people who get into trouble with the law were the subject of a recent conference in London attended by representatives of many bodies.

The Minister of Education wisely pointed out that 98 out of every 100 children never come to the notice of the police at all.

The real problem, he said, is how to guide the energy of the child into good channels rather than bad—towards healthy adventure rather than toughness and gangsterdom. One of the best ways of doing this, he continued, is to attach "glamour" to goodness rather than to badness. "It is in the nature of children to worship heroes, and if we can provide the right kind of leadership and give the children something worth while to do and something worth while to imitate, we shall be well on the way to solving the problem."

MAN LOOKS OUT

FROM Mount Palomar in California comes news that photographs taken with the aid of the new 200-inch reflector-telescope have revealed objects, shown only as pin-points of light, which are a thousand million light-years distant, twice as far as any telescope has previously reached out.

The number of miles represented by one light-year is 5,876,068,880,000. This is roughly equal to the number of letters in 1,600,000 copies of the Bible.

The miles represented in the distance revealed by this latest triumph of Man's ingenuity is one thousand million times as many!

The mind reels at the very thought of such immense distances, yet the mind of Man will no doubt make it possible for him to reach out still farther!

JUST AN IDEA

As Walter Bagehot wrote, An Englishman whose heart is in a matter is not easily baffled.

Under the

SOME children are ashamed of their bad spelling. Words fail them.

A GIRL pilot took her mother for a flight over their house. Wasn't the first time she had seen over it.

SOME shoe repairers refuse to repair a child's shoe when it is too small. Do not think it is fitting.



FREE paper towels for washers are to be provided by a local council. All right if washers are not in a tearing hurry.

A South African Centenary

MARCH 15 is the centenary of one of South Africa's oldest schools, the Diocesan College, generally known as "Bishop's," at Rondebosch, about four miles from Cape Town, where many men eminent in South African life were educated. It was founded in 1849 by the first Bishop of Cape Town, Robert Gray.

It was the first school chosen by Cecil Rhodes for his scheme of Rhodes Scholarships to Oxford, and the first two Rhodes Scholars were personally approved by him in 1901 only three months before his death. Since then the College has had the privilege under his will of sending a Rhodes Scholar to Oxford every year.

Bishop Gray was inspired to found a Church school by the example of his friend Dr Sewell, who in 1847 had founded Radley College near Oxford on a basis of "religious discipline and sound learning."

The College began in a long outbuilding, but in 1850 it moved

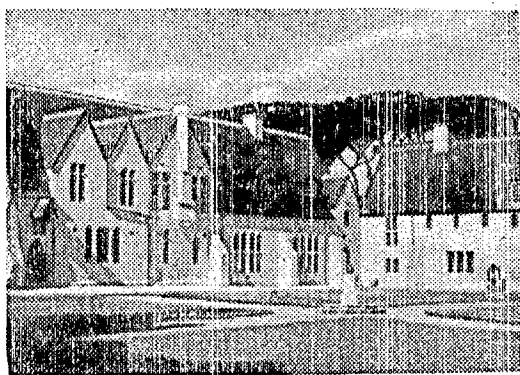
to a farm where the loft over the farmhouse became a dormitory, the cowshed a school Chapel, and the coachhouse a dining hall and classroom. Today a fine block of college buildings stands in 70 acres of what are probably the most beautiful school grounds in South Africa.

Bishop's held its centenary celebrations last month in order to avoid Lent, and General Smuts spoke at an old boys' dinner.

It is a school for European boys; teaching is mostly in English, but some subjects are taught in Afrikaans. English-speaking boys wisely study Afrikaans because, among other reasons, it is essential to be bilingual to enter the South African civil service.

Instead of having three terms a year, Bishop's, like other South African schools, has four quarters. This gives the boys just under two weeks' holidays at Easter, about four weeks in June and July (their winter), about ten days in October, and about six weeks at Christmas (their summer).

We hope this splendid South African public school, which encourages Commonwealth ideals, will raise the £150,000 needed for further endowment. Already about £108,000 has been collected, almost entirely from South Africans.



Founder's Quad, as rebuilt in 1937

OUR FACTORIES ARE IMPROVED

THE 1947 report of the Chief Inspector of Factories, just published, shows that the 203,236 accidents notified under the Factories Act was nearly a tenth less than in 1946. Conditions in many potteries, cotton mills, and iron foundries have greatly improved, but many premises are still unsatisfactory.

Some accidents were due to girls and women wearing unsuitable shoes, and one factory has the slogan: "The lower the heel

the lower the accident rate." A decrease in the accidents to boys and girls was due to better training and supervision.

Among the more remarkable advances made is the increasing interest in industrial relationships, staff management and training, and apprenticeship schemes. Another is the brighter decoration, particularly in cotton and woollen mills, where "the success of colour schemes is unbelievable."

AIR-LIFT FOR THE ARABS

WHILE the attention of the world has been concentrated on the huge air-lift to Berlin another air-lift, run on a similar scale by the RAF and the authorities of the Aden Protectorate, has been bringing relief to 80,000 Arabs of the Hadhramaut Plateau, in Southern Arabia.

This plateau, which was one of the richest agricultural areas of the Queen of Sheba's realm, is now little more than a barren desert studded with rocks and intersected by deep ravines. Only in these ravines can the Arabs raise any crops from the reluctant soil, and these meagre supplies of food have to be eked out with the surplus crop from nearby Yemen.

During the last six months no rain has fallen in the Hadhramaut ravines, and consequently cultivation was impossible. The Yemen crop, too, was so poor that there was none to spare for their starving neighbours.

Then the RAF stepped in to save the situation. Daily a small fleet of Dakotas took off from the Riyan Airport with some tons of red millet corn made up into bags. Over the "target" the bags were dropped and the planes returned for another load.

In the old days it would have required 30 camels 40 days to take to the Hadhramaut the same load as one Dakota can take in a round trip of 90 minutes.

CELTIC WRITING

DURING recent excavations at Cilgerran Castle, Pembroke-shire, a rare ogam stone was found. This is a stone bearing an inscription in an ancient Celtic language of which the alphabet consisted simply of strokes placed at different angles above, on, and below a horizontal line—a kind of shorthand, though as there were sometimes as many as five strokes for one of our letters, it was not very short.

The word comes from Ogma, a Celtic god of eloquence, and this form of writing is believed to have been invented during the Roman occupation of Britain. Most ogam stones have been found in the south of Ireland, several have been found in South Wales, some in Scotland, and one or two in Devon and Cornwall.

THINGS SAID

TRAVEL and freedom to study the life and thought of others are the best of educations. They are also the surest guarantees against tyranny.

Princess Elizabeth

THERE are in the world hundreds of things which are right, but which cannot be legislated for; things which would never be done unless someone was prepared to do them without reward.

The Duke of Edinburgh

THE willingness of the British people to accept an austerity régime is as fine evidence of their determination to achieve recovery as we could ask for.

Senator Vandenberg

WE can speak of our recovery being completed only in the very limited sense that our production is now back to the level, indeed, substantially above the level, of pre-war production.

Sir Stafford Cripps

WE lose two million tons of food a year from destruction by rats and mice.

*Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture*

Second Elizabethan Age

At Edinburgh University recently Professor M. G. Fisher, K C, said to Princess Elizabeth: "It is our prayer that in the fullness of time under your guidance there may dawn for Britain a second Elizabethan age which in its grandeur will outshine its predecessor."

He was presenting Princess Elizabeth for the honorary degree of Doctor of Law.

In the course of her address to the students the Princess said: "... ours is a tremendous responsibility. If we hope to see our children grow up in tolerable conditions, and if peace and prosperity are to drive out the spectres of war and want we must rely very largely on the services of those who have had the advantages of an education such as yours."

Editor's Table

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW

If a clock that
strikes the hours
beats time



PEOPLE complain because a right of way has been closed. Thinks it should have been left.

□

A MAN says his path has been crossed by nearly every radio star of note. Can't he get along with them?

□

A SUSSEX beauty spot is to be ploughed up. Local inhabitants will be harrowed.

□

A CERTAIN lady is said to have reached a high position in English art. Perhaps she is decorating a ceiling.

Hope for the World's Children

THE valuable work which the United Nations are doing for children is revealed in the recent Annual Report on Child and Youth Welfare. Within its 236 pages can be seen both the problems which face the young of such countries as Greece, Yugoslavia, and India as well as the good work being done there and elsewhere. In France, for example, the war left 700,000 children in need of special care and protection.

Here are some of the achievements recorded in the Report.

A children's hospital was recently opened in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan. The government of Bolivia has forbidden the employment of young people in bars and places of entertainment. In Iran health centres are being opened. Norway is opening young people's holiday camps, while the Dominican Republic has made a start with a children's nursery.

Commenting on the Report, for which 32 countries provided information, the official Bulletin of U.N. declares: "The old idea of child welfare as philanthropy to aid unfortunate or less privileged children is yielding place to the concept of children and young persons as the centre of efforts to promote social security and social welfare."

By tackling such problems as these, the United Nations point the way to that fruitful international co-operation which can do much to advance the cause of world peace.

THE FILMS WE LIKE

AN inquiry, made in nine counties, into the sort of films that appeal to children has revealed that their favourites appear to be comedies, animal pictures, or films about cowboys and detectives. The pictures that are least popular with children are stated to be love stories, news reels, documentaries (non-fiction films), and educational films.

We cannot, perhaps, expect educational films to compete with Dick Barton, but the minority who prefer the educational films are probably those who will be the leaders when all are grown up and gone out into life.

The County Councils Association, which organised this inquiry, has two wise suggestions about films and young people. The first, that an independent body should be appointed to certify which films are suitable for children; and the second, that films should be classified as: those from which children should be excluded whether or not they are accompanied; those specially appropriate for children; and those for universal exhibition.

SOUND ADVICE

COME when you're called;
And do as you're bid;
Shut the door after you;
And you'll never be chid.

Maria Edgeworth

Weather Men Among the Seals

THE men of the Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition now living on Macquarie Island, 800 miles south of Tasmania, send out periodically news of their lonely life. The CN has told before of the expedition's plans to observe the weather, movements of the ice pack, and so on, and to report on air currents so that better forecasts may be obtained for seamen and airmen in the Antarctic area.

Macquarie is the home of the giant elephant seal, says Mr Norman Laird, a member of the expedition. From his little wooden hut on the bleak uplands of Macquarie he can hear the thumps of the elephant seals, or sea-elephants as they are sometimes called, as they make their way across the rocky shore. One of their favourite games is fighting by moonlight. Their huge flippers are used to whack each other 'with what Mr Laird calls "dull, meaty whacks."

Helpless on Land

Watching a huge, dark head above the waves Mr Laird one day saw an enormous elephant seal lift itself on to the shore. Its gleaming sides shone in the sunlight before it sank heavily in the pebbles. Oddly enough, the Macquarie elephant seal loves the land, where it is helpless. It flounders about without any guide or direction to its movements.

In the last century Macquarie was a favourite haunt of seal hunters who killed millions of seals; then in 1932 the Tasmanian Government declared the island to be a sanctuary. The expedition has discovered that the fur seals which were supposed to have died out through the onslaughts of unregulated seal trading have reappeared again. They have been discovered on the sheltered, rocky inlets at the very north of the island. Shy, greyish creatures, they disappear like lightning into the sea at the approach of any human being. They bark when disturbed, and migrate to sea for the summer months.

One sea-lion bull which is known to the expedition as Blackie has 'a lordly disregard for the island's temporary residents, and will make a frontal attack when he gets the opportunity. Blackie is able to move as fast as a man, and on one occasion charged the expedition's photographer who was about to snap him. One afternoon the expedition turned out to watch a

fight between Blackie and a young elephant seal.

The fight turned out to be a cat-and-mouse affair. The superior intelligence and activity of the sea-lion gave it an advantage over the larger elephant seal, which was soon suffering from a nasty mauling. When he finished his play-fight Blackie boldly marched down the beach to the sea through a group of elephant seals which looked like gigantic stuffed sausages as they cleared a passage for the conqueror.

Another of Macquarie's seal visitors is the leopard seal, owner of a magnificent set of teeth of which any tiger would be proud. It moves on the ground and in the sea rather like a snake. The leopard seal has lost the power of thrusting itself forward with its front limbs, and so it is almost helpless in a tight corner. The leopard seal, or sea-leopard, lives a solitary life, always on the watch for prey. It does not seem to eat birds but only fish. It is a handsome animal with a powerful head, and its body is marked out in black and white.

Macquarie's other inhabitants are penguins, which congregate by the thousand.

Huge Carpets of Seaweed

Treeless and windswept, Macquarie Island is covered with rich grass which waves in long green plumes in the breeze. The grass gives protection to the small plants and to the small animals whose existence would be precarious otherwise. Round the island shores float massive fields of sea kelp which rise and fall with the waves like immense green carpets. The long fangs of the kelp thrash the shore and hundreds of tons are deposited on the beaches after a storm.

The weather men on Macquarie have learned to understand the ways of seals and penguins, and when the expedition returns to Australia Macquarie will return to its own loneliness—as a wild-life sanctuary.



Load of Mischief

Chimpanzees, like babies, have to be weighed from time to time, and here we see a keeper at the London Zoo weighing four of them together.

POST OFFICE HARVEST

WHEN you dropped a letter into a pillar-box a year ago it was one of 7600 million letters, postcards, and parcels posted in this country during the year which ended March 31, 1948. This and other interesting facts are published in a Post Office report (Stationery Office, 9d).

This total, however, was below that of 1938-39, which was 8240 million. More parcels were handled than before the war, the number for last year being estimated at 243 million as against 185 million in 1938-39. Picture postcards are still less than the pre-war total for a year of 428 million, doubtless because of their increased price nowadays. Gone, probably for ever, are the days of two-a-penny picture postcards which could be sent for a halfpenny stamp each.

There were 4,605,898 telephones in use on March 31 last year compared with 3,203,132 in 1939—and there were still 444,612 would-be subscribers waiting for telephones last year. This increase may have had something to do with loss on the telegraph service during 1947-48 of £2,496,113.

In spite of that loss, the Post Office had a surplus last year of £19,555,089.

From all this we may glance back to a day in 1586 when the Lords of the Council ordered "that the postes betwene this and the Northe should eche of them keepe a booke, and make entrie of every lettre that he shall receive, the time of the deliverie thereof into his hands, with the parties names that shall bring it unto him."

THE BEST ROAD TO THE ISLES

FROM the famous song we know that the Road to the Isles is by way of Tummel and Loch Rannoch and Lochaber. There are, however, many so-called Roads to the Isles, so the Scottish Rights of Way Society has decided to signpost the Road of its preference.

This road will be from Aberfeldy to Rannoch, along Rannoch-side; north-west to Loch Ossian, by way of Loch Treig to Bridge of Roy and Spean Bridge; thence to Knoydart, and down to Inverie. One of the chief merits of this route, which is a favourite one for rambles, is that it passes through some of the loveliest scenery of the Highlands.



THIS ENGLAND

The village of Bardsea, near Ulverston in Lancashire

For the Fight Against Cancer

THE 20 million-volt Betatron, a machine which will be used in the fight against cancer, is now being built at the Trafford Park factory of Metropolitan-Vickers Engineering Company, near Manchester. The Betatron, which is to be presented to the Christie Hospital, Manchester, will prove extremely valuable for research into the use of radioactive chemicals against cancer.

The machine, which is a smaller brother of the 300 million-volt Synchrotrons used in atomic research work, produces X-rays 80 times more powerful than a conventional X-ray plant. It was designed by Dr J. R. K. Paterson of the Christie Hospital and the Holt Radium Institute, and his wife, Dr Edith Paterson. They spent two years working out the details with Metro-Vickers technicians. It is a gift to the hospital by Metro-Vickers, and the building to house it, running expenses, and research staff will be provided by the Medical Research Council.

This machine is a "by-product" of research into the atomic bomb, which suggested to scientists that by making certain chemicals radio-active they can kill cancer cells.

HIS FIRST HAIRCUT

LEWISHAM (London) barbers have decided to give a certificate to very junior customers having their first haircut.

Few of us can remember the proud day when, wrapped up in the barber's sheet, and perched in a high chair, we first heard the busy clip-clop of the hair-cutter's scissors—and were not quite sure whether we liked it. We cannot remember whether tickly bits of hair went down our necks or whether the barber gave us his political opinions.

Now, however, the young people of Lewisham will have a memento of this great occasion. The certificate is headed: To commemorate the first haircut, and it continues: This is to certify that... has graduated from babyhood, having received his first haircut this day.

With the certificate will be an envelope containing a lock of the first shorn hair.



THE PLOT OF SHAKESPEARE'S CYMBELINE WAS DERIVED PARTLY FROM A LEGENDARY HISTORY OF CUNOBELINUS—A BRITISH KING WHO LIVED AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS CHRIST—IN HOLINSHED'S CHRONICLE, AND PARTLY FROM THE DECAMERON OF BOCCACCIO.



THE CAPITAL OF CUNOBELINUS WAS CAMALODUNUM, THE MODERN COLCHESTER, AND HIS INFLUENCE EXTENDED TO THE NORTH AS FAR AS NORFOLK AND TO THE WEST BEYOND VERULAMILUM, THE MODERN ST ALBANS.



HAVING PROVOKED AUGUSTUS CAESAR TO PLAN AN INVASION OF BRITAIN, CUNOBELINUS SUBMITTED AND BECAME HIS ALLY, WHICH HE REMAINED UNTIL THE DEATH OF THE FIRST OF THE ROMAN EMPERORS IN A.D. 14.

THE BONE SHIPS OF BONEY'S SAILORS

A COLLECTION of model sailing ships, mostly made by French prisoners-of-war of Napoleonic days, is now on view at the Parker Gallery, 2 Albemarle Street, London. These exquisitely wrought models, accurate in every detail, were made largely from bones saved from their meals, and the rigging was often made from hair from their own heads. They stand today as beautiful monuments to the human spirit rising above the boredom and sorrow of long captivity.

For the Frenchmen who built them with such amazing care and patience lived in conditions very different from those of the war prisoners we have seen in our land in our times. For example, at Norman Cross, Huntingdonshire, the Napoleonic prisoners were herded together in low huts 800 men to an acre.

These craftsmen carefully hoarded everything that might be useful for their work, searching the camp refuse dumps for odds and ends. They whittled and shaped bones into pieces to be used as timbers and deck planks, fastening them together with brass pins. The result was not just a "curio" but a thing of beauty.

Their uncanny skill is nowhere better seen than in the rigging of the models—to which many a sailor's pigtail was sacrificed; every rope, block, dead eye, lanyard, cleat, splice, eye, and so on, possessed by the real ship was put into the models and, most astonishing of all, these could be worked.

The model ships were very small—so that they could stand conveniently on anyone's sideboard or bookcase. That of the

Barfleur, for instance, is only 13 inches long. The ship it represents was British, launched in 1768. She was commanded by Captain Collingwood at the "Glorious First of June." The model has diminutive cannon made of copper with a device enabling them to be run in and out.

The models have survived to our day because the prisoners generally sold them to prison officials or Naval officers. They are wonderful examples of a craftsmanship that almost defies mechanical imitation, and in contemplating them we salute the skill and resource of former unhappy enemies, now become good and staunch friends.

The exhibition of Old Ship Models will be open until April 7. Admission is free.

Boston Bells Ring Their Warning Again

ONE of the famous bells in "Boston Stump"—the well-known landmark tower of the church there—rang out a warning to the citizens when the highest tide since 1810 recently caused floodwater to pour over the river wall into the streets of this old Lincolnshire town.

The verger went on tolling the bell until water poured into the church itself and reached the chancel steps. The tidal water came to within an inch of a mark cut on the outside base of the

tower to mark the floods of 1810. A more disastrous flood occurred at Boston in 1571 when the town and a great part of the county were devastated. How the bells gave a warning of that disaster is vividly described by Jean Ingelow, the poet who was born at Boston in 1820:

*The old Mayor climbed the belfry tower,
The ringers ran by two by three;
"Pull if ye never pulled before,
Good ringers, pull your best,"
quoth he.*

"Play uppe play uppe, O Boston bells:

Play all your changes, all your swells,

Play uppe The Brides of Enderby."

But there were no Brides of Enderby when she wrote her verse. She chose the phrase from the pretty name of Mavis Enderby, a village up in the Wolds, and the tune afterwards played on the church chimes was composed as a tribute to the poem.

Oil Town in the Jungle

DURING the next three years, a new town of more than 700 houses will be built at Serai, Brunel, in British Borneo. It will provide accommodation for the staff of the Shell Petroleum Company which is planning new oil projects in this area. The site of the new oil town is still largely virgin jungle, though the work of clearing the necessary 600 acres has begun.

In building the houses the contractors will use their invention of Siftufoam. A mixture of sand and cement is injected with foam and the liquid mixture is then poured into a framework. Thus the walls of the building are poured into position directly on the foundations. When the mixture is set hard there are innumerable small air cells left in the walls which are said to be insulating and do not allow moisture to penetrate.

Work has also begun on a 4000-foot-long concrete marine jetty which is to be finished by the middle of 1950. More than 400 reinforced concrete piles, and over 3000 tons of concrete will be used for this. From it, drilling for oil will be carried out below the bed of the China Sea.

FLATS ON STILTS

A REMARKABLE building is under construction at Marseilles. Designed by a famous French architect, it will be more like a little town when it is completed, for it will contain 330 flats and house no fewer than 1600 people.

Perhaps the most extraordinary feature of this great building, which is to have 27 storeys and from ground level to roof will be over 200 feet high, is that it will not rest on ordinary foundations; it will be raised clear of the ground on 36 concrete pylons, each 23 feet high.

This "vertical community," as it is called by the architect, will be completely self-contained. The whole of one floor, for instance, will be given up to a complete shopping centre; it will even have a post office. On the roof there will be a 330-yard running track, a swimming bath, a gymnasium, a nursery, and a youth club.

ROB ROY—Sir Walter Scott's Thrilling Romance of an Outlaw, Told in Pictures



After Rob Roy had stopped the fight between Frank and Rashleigh, Frank still insisted on the other handing over his father's money, but Rashleigh, with a scornful smile, walked away. Frank would have run after him, but Rob held him back. Rob told Frank that Rashleigh had persuaded Morris, the Government messenger, to renew his charge of robbery against Frank, who was thus now in danger of arrest.



Rob said he would try to help Frank. He invited him to come to the Clachan of Aberfoyle in the Highlands, then strode away. Frank returned to the house of Mr Jarvie, who was discussing Frank's father's affairs with Mr Owen. Jarvie thought that Rob could, if he liked, get hold of the money Rashleigh had taken. Rob was supposed to be on the Jacobite side, like Rashleigh, but, "Rob is for his ain hand," said the good bailie, Jarvie.



Mr Jarvie was anxious to help Frank's father, and he agreed to go with Frank to the Clachan of Aberfoyle to meet mysterious Rob Roy. It was decided that Owen should remain in Glasgow. Next morning Frank, his servant Andrew, and good Mr Jarvie, who was swathed in clothes as though for a Siberian expedition, left Glasgow and set out across the wild and desolate moorlands towards the distant Clachan of Aberfoyle.



It was night when they reached the Clachan of Aberfoyle, a group of miserable hovels. Across the door of the tumbledown inn was a peeled wand, a sign, said Andrew, that Highland chiefs were meeting inside and did not want to be disturbed. But Frank led the way in. Rob Roy was not there. The Highlanders sprang up and scowled angrily at the newcomers, then muttered to each other and snorted indignantly.

How Will These Warlike Highlanders Treat the Unwanted Guests? See Next, Week's Instalment

The Children's Newspaper, March 19, 1949

WOOL-GATHERING



The boys and girls in the picture above are busy collecting wool left on the hedges by sheep as they brushed against them. These young wool-gatherers are very wide awake, and they intend using the odd bits and pieces left behind by the sheep as raw material for making their own clothes.

The young folk come from the Cotswold village of Laverton, near beautiful Broadway, where two volunteer instructors, Miss Mary Osborn and Miss Judith Honneger have taught about 16 children and 30 grown-ups how to spin, dye, weave, and make garments from the raw wool found around their homes.

Each of these boys and girls can collect enough in the early part of the year to make a winter

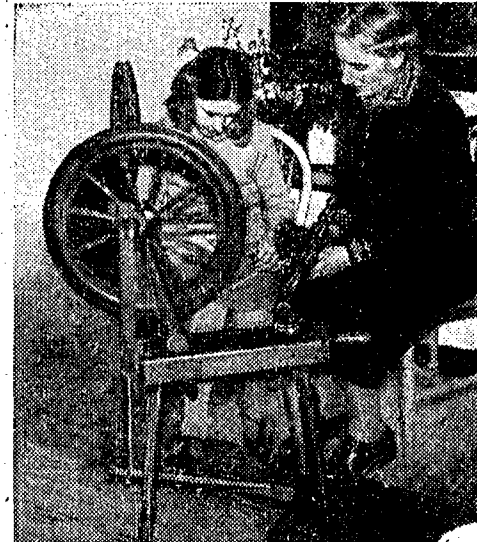
garment. They have made from the wool their own gloves, hoods, pullovers, scarves, and socks. Some of the grown-ups have made dresses and rugs from the free wool they have gleaned from the hedges.

The people of Laverton have even made some of their own spinning implements, though the spinning wheel in the top right picture, which a girl is learning to use, was presented to Gandhi by Indian students on his 63rd birthday.

Home-made dyes are also produced by these Cotswold textile experts; they make them from roots, barks, leaves, and onion skins. Miss Osborn and Miss Honneger taught various crafts at an East London settlement before the war.



Teasing and carding the wool



Spinning the carded wool



Above, the children are seen hanging out the wool to dry in the back garden of their home. On the right, they are tackling a job that needs the utmost care—dyeing the wool.



SHE SAILED WITH COLUMBUS

THE sailing ship Nina, 20th-century replica of the 15th-century caravel which accompanied Columbus on his voyage of discovery to the New World, is for sale. The ship was built in Barbados for location scenes in a new British film in Technicolor, Christopher Columbus.

This vessel has already had an adventurous history. Designed by the British racing-yacht designer Robert Clark, and built from West Indian hardwood and Canadian pines, it is 68 feet in over-all length, and has a 22-foot beam. Its three masts are square-rigged.

Soon after being launched last July, the Nina was lost for nearly two days with 20 people aboard. She was struck by a squall, ran out of petrol, and was finally sighted by a rescue plane 40 miles off the Barbados Coast.

Although Nina is in appearance just like her namesake, she is also a luxury pleasure-yacht fitted with radio transmitter and receiver, radio-telephone, electric light, twin 120 h.p. petrol engines, refrigerator, and cooking range. Equally suitable for trading or pleasure, the ship would need a crew of 15 if sailed under canvas, or three or four if the engines were used.

The Nina is still docked in the West Indies, but she may be put up for sale in Britain.

Mahratta State Joins India

ANOTHER landmark in the story of the famous Mahrattas who overthrew the Mogul Empire and disputed the possession of India with the British, has been reached with the voluntary merging into the Dominion of India of the Mahratta Principality of Kolhapur, in Bombay Province.

The rulers of Kolhapur claim descent from the Mahratta patriot hero, Shivaji, who founded the Mahratta Empire in 1657. At that time the Mahratta people, Hindus living in the West of India, were ruled by the Moslem Emperor of India, the Mogul. Shivaji, a man of humble origin, led his people to revolt.

They fought desperately against the Mogul's troops, and their daring horsemen swept across India to the Ditch of Calcutta, and finally to the marble halls of the Great Mogul at Delhi.

The Mahrattas, however, were not content with achieving national independence, and they became predatory conquerors. They built up a vast cavalry army of 100,000 horsemen, and parties of these would arrive in some distant province and demand to be paid 'chouth'. This meant that the ruler of the threatened state must either pay the Mahratta invaders one-fourth of his revenue or else have his towns and villages looted and burned.

Thus the Mahrattas practically established their own empire in place of the Mogul Empire. Meanwhile, British influence was growing, and it was inevitable that the two powers should clash. Disputes began in 1775, and in 1803 a war was fought in which General Arthur Wellesley, afterwards the Duke of Wellington, won victories which marked the end of Mahratta power.

EXPLORING NEAR HOME

MOST of us think of exploration in connection with the Polar regions, the Tropics, or the uninhabited areas of the world; but there is one explorers' society that operates much nearer home.

The London Explorers' Club has the motto, Know Your London, and its object is to interest Londoners in their city; they visit interesting and often little-known places in London.

An account of their activities in the last 18 years has just been

published, and it shows that in this period they have visited 50 museums, 200 schools, many churches, a synagogue, a mosque, newspaper offices, airports, banks, parks, docks, and ships.

These explorers have enjoyed river cruises, flown over London, and visited such vastly different places as the Cabinet War Room, a ginger-beer factory, and the College of Arms. Such a list shows that there will always be plenty to explore in London.

The Great CN Handwriting Test Only 2 Weeks More

THE end of this month marks the closing date for the C N's £500 Handwriting Competition, so if you are competing but have still to complete your entry you should do so without delay.

This great National Test is of course open to all full-time pupils of schools and colleges in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands who are under 17. Moreover, everybody has an equal opportunity of winning one of the 1018 prizes as there are THREE AGE CLASSES, with awards for both schools and pupils in each.

Full rules and directions for the competition appear on each Entry Form, together with the words to be written. As has been explained in previous announcements, these are of special interest as they form a Greeting from British schoolchildren to the infant Prince Charles of Edinburgh. So if you—or any of your friends—have not yet handed in your forms at school, remember that time is short as March 31 is the last day by which entries can be received. The Prize List includes:

£150 IN CASH PRIZES 1000 Special Consolation Prizes

The last date for application for Entry Forms was February 28. Entrants are encouraged to practise writing the test passage on plain paper before completing their final effort. As to style—script, joined script, or cursive may be used, so that competitors have the advantage of using the style taught in their own school.

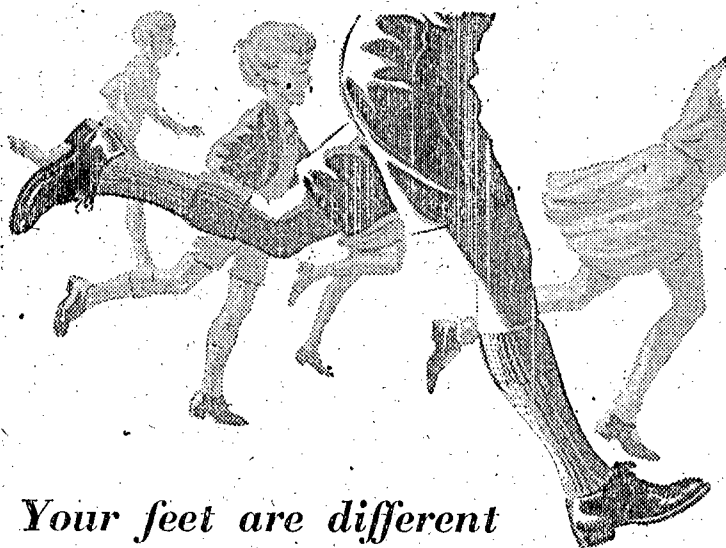
It should be remembered that the completed entry is to be signed by the Teacher, and must have affixed to it one of the Tokens marked "£500 Writing Test," as given at the foot of the back page of this number—and if any of your friends are entering and have difficulty in getting their

tokens, tell them that everybody can have CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER now. If the newsagent has sold all his copies, as is happening in many parts, he can get more copies if he is asked. But such orders, whether for one copy, or for a regular supply, must be placed at once! Each pupil's entry will be judged as an individual effort, but must be sent in as part of his or her school's total entry. There are just over two more weeks before the competition closing date.

(NB—It is regretted that the competition cannot be extended to schools outside Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands.)

Closing Date: Thursday, March 31

FACTS ABOUT YOUR SHOES



Your feet are different

No two persons' feet are exactly alike. Some of us have thin long feet, others wide short ones. Or there're the wide long ones and the thin. . . . Yes, we're all different. . . . even children. That's why you should always be measured for your shoes. Clarks promise freedom from all foot troubles caused by footwear if every shoe since babyhood is fitted by their footgauge. It's a promise worth the making . . . and keeping.

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ON THE STAGE

WHEN ONLY FOUR

Recalling a Great English Actress

Few, if any, actresses have begun their stage careers at such an early age as Dame Madge (Margaret) Kendal, who was born at Cleethorpes on March 15, just 100 years ago.

Both her parents were on the stage, and Madge was not yet five when she appeared in a play called *The Struggle for Gold* at the Marylebone Theatre, London, then under the managership of her father, William Robertson; and she was barely six when, at the same theatre, she captivated the audience by calling out from the stage to her nurse: "Oh, Nurse, look at my new shoes!"

From the time she was 11 until she was 16, the young actress appeared at the historic Theatre Royal, Bristol. During a visit to Bath at this period she was the second singing fairy in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the part of Titania being played by Ellen Terry, herself only 16.

Ophelia at Sixteen

Madge Robertson was still only 16 when she appeared as Ophelia in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* at London's Haymarket Theatre, and a little later she acted at Drury Lane.

On a provincial tour during her early twenties she married an actor in the company named William Kendal. After a period of management on their own account the Kendals joined Sir John Hare in a partnership that was very successful. When this came to an end the Kendals spent most of their time touring the provinces and in America.

In 1908 this great actress retired, making only occasional performances for charity. In her 80th year, "Matron of the British Drama," she was presented by old friends and admirers with her portrait painted by Sir William Orpen. She was 86 when she died in her home at Chorley Wood, Hertfordshire.

Who Will Win the Calcutta Cup?

ONE of the season's greatest sporting events will take place on Saturday at Twickenham, the annual rugby battle between England and Scotland, and the headquarters of English Rugby will not hold the mighty crowd wanting to see the game.

The winners are awarded the Calcutta Cup, a trophy presented by the Calcutta Rugby Football Club, when the club was disbanded in 1878, for annual competition between England and Scotland.

Since the first match for the trophy the Scots and the English are all-square—24 victories each, with eight games drawn. In 1911 the countries first met at Twickenham, and in the 13 games played at this wonderful ground, Scotland have only won three times.

The annual rugby matches between the Scots and the Sassenach began on Monday, March 27, 1871, at Raeburn Place, Edinburgh.

After a grim, no-quarter struggle, the Scots won, and since then the annual clash between the two countries has become the outstanding event of the Rugby year.

Moving Day

COLLEGE GOES BY ROAD

SCHOOLBOYS in any land would think it great fun to help to move their college buildings 15 miles by road.

Tupou College has 360 Tongan boys in residence and ten tutors on the staff. How to feed such a large family was a problem for the college authorities, because there was not enough ground near at hand to grow native food crops. So when it was decided to move the college to a new site which had 780 acres of farm land the boys and tutors were keen to do as much of the work as they could.

Houses were pulled down and loaded on to lorries by boys, taken 15 miles by road and unloaded by another squad of boys. Then carpenters put the sections of houses together again.

The new Tupou College has arisen 11 miles from the capital of the Kingdom of Tonga, a seaport town with the pretty name of Nuku'alofa.

It is really an agricultural college, and the 360 boys are kept busy in the college food gardens in order to grow the vegetables they need.

Tupou College is trying to teach Tongan boys to be good farmers and to be skilful in caring for animals.

REMEMBERING LORD KELVIN

MANY of the original scientific instruments designed by Lord Kelvin have been on view at a special exhibition at the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh; particularly those connected with electricity and navigation, which were his favourite fields of research.

Lord Kelvin, who lived from 1824 to 1907, never ceased in his efforts to extend the frontiers of human knowledge. For 53 years he lectured as a professor at Glasgow University, and his lectures were so profound that usually only the most brilliant of his students could fully understand him.

Despite his many fine achievements, Lord Kelvin to the end retained that humility which is the mark of true genius. Not long before his death he declared: "I know no more of electric and magnetic force, or of the relation between ether, electricity, and ponderable matter, or of chemical affinity than I knew and tried to teach my class students in my first session as professor."

OTHER PEOPLE'S JOBS

Continued from page 5
says "Full up!" or elbow their way on to the platform before other passengers have got off.

But, for anyone who likes the job and is interested in it, and especially anyone who likes people and gets satisfaction from helping them, it must be very worth while—at least, that's what I thought when I reached the end of my journey with my London Clippie and hopped off.

With a wave and a smile, a Ting-Ting! and a "Hold Tight!" she was off again, nipping up those stairs to the top deck for "Any more fares, please?"

The Children's Newspaper, March 19, 1949

THE FIRST BOOK OF PRINCE CHARLES

A PRECIOUS SOUVENIR FOR YOU TO TREASURE



This grand 24-page art book is called "PRINCE CHARLES." Contents include the very first official pictures of the Baby Prince with Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip. In all, the book has

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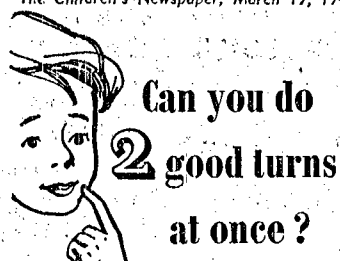


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DON'T DELAY, WRITE TODAY!

D. J. HANSON (Dept. C.N.37), Eastington, Goole, Yorks

The Children's Newspaper, March 19, 1949



Mother sometimes gives you an odd copper when you do a job for her and this is how you can turn one good turn into two and help the N.S.P.C.C. to help unhappy children. Save up these coppers and, when you've collected 2/6, send it in with the form below, which you should cut out and fill in. This will make you a member of the League of Pity, the Children's Branch of the N.S.P.C.C. The League will then send you a Blue Bird Badge to keep and wear and, on loan, a Blue Egg in which to put your League savings. You can be sure that every penny you earn or collect will help the N.S.P.C.C. to make some poor, ill-treated boy or girl happy. That's a worthwhile target, isn't it?



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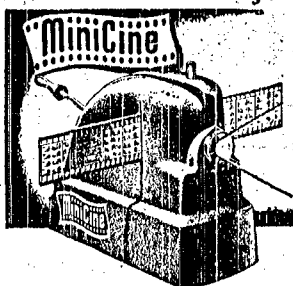
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Cocos Island's Buried Treasure

LOST LOOT OF LIMA

EXACTLY 14 years ago 15 adventurers left Lowestoft in the Veracity, a converted motor-drifter of 50 tons, to try to find the "lost loot of Lima," which was supposed to be buried on the shore of Cocos Island, off the west coast of Costa Rica. Their effort failed.

The recently-reported discovery of the treasure, said to be worth £125,000,000, has led Mr Henry Leighton, of Bungay in Suffolk, to talk about the quest which many venturers have made and on which he and his friends went in 1935.

"Many men have died in their attempts to obtain the 12 life-sized statues of the Apostles and one of the Virgin Mary, all in solid gold; and the gold ingots, precious stones, and pieces of eight which comprise the treasure," he said. "It was taken from Lima Cathedral, and was entrusted to a British seaman, Captain Thompson, and his ship, Mary Dear, for safe removal, but the temptation of a fortune proved too great.

"One night Captain Thompson slipped out of the harbour intent on keeping the fortune for himself and his crew, but Benito, a notorious pirate, found the Mary Dear. He killed Captain Thompson and all his crew, took the loot to Cocos Island, and buried it 32 feet below the ground. He, in his turn, was attacked by Peruvian troops, who had been sent by their Government to recover the treasure. Benito escaped, but all his crew were taken prisoner and executed.

"From that day on the search for the £125,000,000 treasure has continued," Mr Leighton added.

BEDTIME CORNER

Up Went Mr Portly



MR PORTLY and Tinkle enjoyed having tree-climbing races, and they preferred apple trees because there

were plenty of stout criss-cross branches which made getting up and down easier.

But, sad to relate, after a while Mr Portly became rather conceited and showing-offish about his climbing, because being younger and lighter than Tinkle he often beat him.

Then one day a grey girl tabby called Smoke challenged him to a race up a slender tree in the front garden.

Up its trunk raced Smoke, and up went Mr Portly, claws-a-clicketing, and quite sure that he would win. Up they went into the thinner, bendy branches near the top, until at last Mr Portly out-distanced Smoke and got to the highest perch. And there he sat, purring with pride.

Presently Smoke's mistress called her home to dinner, and down she scrambled.

Then Ann called Mr Portly home to dinner. But when he stretched out a paw to climb down, the branches rocked and danced so that he suddenly felt he dare not.

So he cried to Ann to climb and fetch him. But of course she could not. Nor could

THE BIRD IN THE MINE

Canaries Play Their Part

LAST year was the safest in the history of British mining. Since 1940 the number of miners killed underground has been almost halved, but even so mining remains a dangerous calling, for official figures, show that 433 miners were killed underground in 1948. The 35 Mines Rescue Stations—the "Silent Service"—are always ready with all their resources to deal with any emergency, and among the most cheerful members of their staff are the canaries. They, too, are ready, for there is a carefully-kept rota of daily duties.

These birds have the very important job of helping to detect the presence of the dangerous carbon monoxide gas in the mines after an explosion has occurred or during underground fires. Carbon monoxide reacts immediately on the warm blood of the birds, much quicker than on human beings, and science has devised no better testers of gas than the canary.

Bird lovers will wonder about the fate of the canary, but their fears on this account can be put at rest. The birds are carried in an oxygen cage which has perforations at one end and an oxygen cylinder at the top. When the bird shows signs of distress the cage is immediately sealed and made airtight by the captain of the rescue team, the oxygen is turned on, and the bird revives.

One station has not lost a bird for several years. One bird was in several mining disasters, was gassed several times, but recovered and lived in happy retirement to a ripe old age.



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go the branch he was on, and jumping and sliding and bumping, he got safely to the ground.

And he's never climbed that slender tree since!

THE BRAN TUB

TWO SEATER?

ANTIQUE dealer: Now this is a very interesting piece, sir—a William and Mary chair.

Customer: It's a bit small. I expect Mary had to sit on William's lap.

UNFORTUNATE

A FOOLISH young schoolboy named Mole, Thought he'd helped his side out of a hole.

But his team mates all roared, When they saw Mole had scored, For he'd kicked the ball through his own goal.

Roddy



"Is that what you mean when you say you are 'getting' down to brass tacks, Daddy?"

FRANK

A YORKSHIRE dalesman was asked by a summer visitor how the people in his lonely part of the country passed their time during the long winter evenings.

"Pass oor time!" he exclaimed. "Why, we foost mak' up a big fire in t' owd kitchen grate, pull oop our cheers round it and sit an talk all t' neet about all t' queer folk that coom this way in t' summer time."

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Jacko and Chimp on the Trail



"Big-Chief Jacko" and "Sitting Bull Chimp" were on the warpath.



The Red Indians were on the trail of their enemy, the Paleface.



But the pursuers turned into the pursued, and all faces were red!

HARD TASK

SAMMY SIMPLE was writing a letter to a friend when his Mother looked over his shoulder. "What awful grammar!" she exclaimed.

"I know," said Sammy. "But how can I write grammar with a pen like this?"

Ill Weather

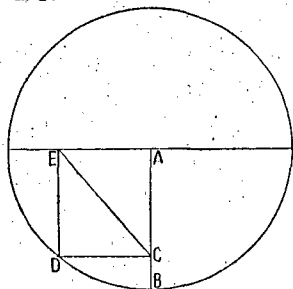
A BOY who had just joined the navy, Ate lashings of pork chops and gravy.

In his bunk he lay prone, And declared with a groan, That the sea was a great deal too wavy.

CATCH YOUR FRIENDS

HERE is a little geometry poser. It looks difficult but it is really easy, although it will catch many of your friends.

Draw a circle with 9-inch radius (A.B). A.C is 7 inches. Draw C.D at right angles to A.B, and E.D parallel to A.B. Now ask your friends the length of E.C.



The obvious answer will elude many of them. If they do not get the answer you point out that A.D, being the radius, is 9 inches. Therefore the other diagonal, E.C, must also be 9 inches.

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Master Dormouse Seeks a Meal. Up in the hedge Don saw a mouse. Its back was a reddish colour and its waistcoat was white.

"It's a dormouse," said Farmer Gray. "Look at the hairy tail." With surprising agility, Master Dormouse descended the network of twigs, and vanished into the undergrowth.

"I thought dormice were plump creatures," commented Don.

"Not so early in the year," replied the farmer. "By autumn he will be much fatter—that is providing he avoids kestrels, owls, stoats, and weasels, all of which prey on dormice. Dormice are really nocturnal creatures, as their big black eyes indicate. A keen appetite sometimes causes them to venture abroad during the daytime."

Business Man

THE Boss was holding forth at length:

Twice "Thrift" he was instilling. Why, he had "started out in life With nothing but a shilling."

The chief clerk gave a knowing smile—

He really thought that funny. He knew that with the bob the Boss

Had telegraphed for money.

WHAT IS THIS TOWN?

IN the jam but not in the honey, In the cash but not in the money,

In the sword but not in the pen, In the ground but not in the fen, In the flame but not in the fire, In the tower but not in the spire, In the dress but not in the gown, Now what's the name of this sea-side town?

Answer next week.

The Children's Hour

B.B.C. Programmes from Wednesday, March 16, to Tuesday, March 22.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 A Day to Remember—a play. 5.35 The Festival of the Mood. North, 5.0 Sing-Song; Books Worth Reading; How Radar is Used in the North. Scottish, 5.0 A Robert Rabbit story; Dee, Don, and the Dominie.

THURSDAY, 5.0 A story; Belfast Girl Singers; The Kipper Tree; Irish Rhythms Orchestra. Welsh, 5.0 Programme in Welsh. 5.30 A Wrexham School Choir.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Glasgow Slum to Fleet Street (6). 5.15 High Barbary (6). N. Ireland, 5.0 Heir to Dun-an-Oir. (6); Midge Goes Ploughing; Piano Duets. North, 5.0 The Exciting Journey (3).

SATURDAY, 5.0 The Gurgie That Got Lost; The Coloured Coons; Looking After Your Pets. West, 5.0 Clara Chuff (6); The Aveton Gifford Handbell Ringers; Piano; Operation Unicorn—a story.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Rock of Ages (4). N. Ireland, 5.0 Mr Murphy and Timothy John; Nature Diary; Songs. Scottish, 5.0 Cathedrals (1).

MONDAY, 5.0 A Doll's Funeral—a story; Records; The Common Foe—a story. 5.35 How to Listen to Opera (5). North, 5.0 Sing-Song; Summer Competition Winning Entries; Examination Pieces. Scottish, 5.0 Songs; Ronnie and the Bubble Fairy. 5.25 Exploring the Hut-country.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Nursery Rhymes; Pythagoras Finds His Family; A Beckenham Girls' Choir. 5.40 Handwriting—a talk. Midland, 5.0 A story; A Corby School Choir; Digging Up Prehistory. N. Ireland, 5.0 The Cuckoo who Slept all Winter; Belfast Musical Festival Prizewinners. North, 5.0 An Epaminondas story; Children of Other Lands—China; Musical Games; News from Chester Zoo. Scottish, 5.0 Tales of a Wandering Cat; Down at the Mains. Welsh, 5.0 Programme in Welsh.

CONFIDENTIAL

PROFESSOR: Did the postman leave anything this morning? Mrs Professor: Only a post-card for you.

Professor: Open it, will you, please, and tell me what's inside.

Brief Encounter

HE that gets money before he gets wit Will be but a short while master of it.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Enigma	CROSS	GAP
Map, Pam	AUNT	JADE
	STEEL	MAN
Jumbled Dogs	H	AUTUMN
Greyhound, Pekinese, Labrador, Spaniel, Alsatian, Scottie	C	ADMIT
	L	AWYER
	A	NAVAL
Nature Puzzle	SIRE	DALE
Otter	PAD	JETTY

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The Children's Newspaper is printed in England and published every Tuesday by the Proprietors, The Amalgamated Press, Ltd., The Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4. Editorial Offices: John Carpenter House, John Carpenter Street, London, E.C.4. Advertisement Offices: Tallis House, Tallis Street, London, E.C.4. It is registered as a newspaper for transmission by Canadian Magazine Post. Sole Agents for Australia and New Zealand: Messrs Gordon & Gotch, Ltd.; and for South Africa: Central News Agency, Ltd. Postage: Inland 1d; Abroad 4d. March 19, 1949. S.S.